

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4652

ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017

Safe Drinking Water

Mishra Shri Bhairon Prasad

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- a) the details of the steps taken for providing safe drinking water to all the people in the country during the last three years; and
(b) the details of the action plan of the Government for providing drinking water to all the people of the country during next two years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) Rural Drinking Water Supply is State subject. This Ministry supplements the efforts of the States by providing them with technical & financial assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for improving the coverage of safe and adequate drinking water supply in rural areas. During the last three years, Rs. 9640.28 Crore in 2013-14, Rs. 9191.22 Crore in 2014-15 and Rs. 4264.58 Crores in 2015-16 have been released to the States under various components of NRDWP such as Coverage, Water Quality, Sustainability, Operation & Maintenance, Desert Development Programme, Water Quality Earmarked funds.

(b) Under the Strategic Plan in the NRDWP guidelines for the rural drinking water sector for the period 2011-2022, which stresses on extending the piped water supply to more households in the rural areas of the Country, the interim goal till 2017 is to cover 50% of all rural households with piped water supply. By 2022, the goal is to cover 90% of rural households with piped water supply subject to availability of adequate funds. The action plan of the Ministry in the next two years is expeditious completion of all ongoing drinking water supply schemes so as to ensure early availability of potable drinking water to more people. Moreover, this Ministry has taken following steps to ensure the availability of safe drinking water to all in rural areas:

- i. All states can utilize up to 67% of total National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) fund to provide safe drinking water in rural areas.
- ii. 5% of NRDWP fund has been earmarked for water quality to ensure the availability of safe drinking water.
- iii. In 2016-17, Rs. 814.13 crore has been released under National Water Quality Sub-mission programme for various ongoing schemes covering Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations.
- iv. In March 2016, NITI Aayog has provided Rs. 1000 crore to various states for providing immediate solutions in Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations like installation of community water purification plants to ensure at least 8 to 10 litres of drinking water or for last mile connectivity in these areas.
- v. States have been allowed to take up new scheme in arsenic and fluoride affected areas.
- vi. States have been advised to take up surface water based projects with external aid from agencies like World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) etc.